



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

February 5, 1999

James Shafer, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Department of the Navy
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Northern Division
10 Industrial Highway
Code 1823, Mail Stop 82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: January 20, 1999 Restoration Advisory Board minutes

Dear Mr. Shafer:

I am writing in response to your request for EPA to review the Restoration Advisory Board minutes for the January 20, 1999 meeting.

In the third paragraph on page 5, insert "or groundwater" after "sludge pits."

In the third comment on page 8, add environmental groups and local officials to the list.

In the second paragraph on page 9, change "EPA criteria" to "EPA guidance, where available."

In the third paragraph on page 9 - Change "agency will probably use" to "agency used."

In the second paragraph on page 10, change the response to "The hours were only used for the inhalation pathway and was estimated at 5 hours per day. It is not relevant to the ingestion or dermal absorption pathways."

In the third paragraph on page 10, replace the second line with "Kymberlee explained that EPA also considers the recreational scenario evaluated to be for limited recreational use and that it would be discussed in more detail on January 21, 1999." EPA agreed to the use of 48 and 75 days for the recreational scenario on January 13, 1999.

In the last response on page 10, insert "of the new" after "All."

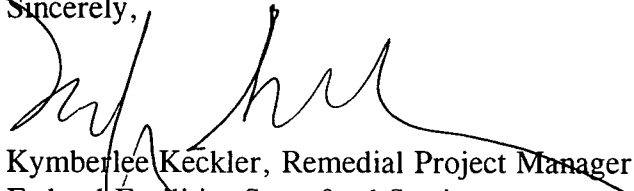
The first and second responses page 11 are not correct. The recreational scenario evaluated surface soil exposure only. Risk calculations using the sediment data will be evaluated at a later date as part of the shoreline visitor scenario.

Replace the third paragraph on page 12 with "Kymberlee stated that there is an actionable risk for the subsurface soil at Katy Field and any remedial action for the subsurface would most likely address the surface soil too. Because Captain Oakleaf has pledged to keep Katy Field closed, it is not necessary to resample per RIDEM's regulations."

Replace the second response on page 13 with "Kymberlee stated that some of the sample concentrations exceeded risk based benchmarks and therefore needed to be carried through the human health risk assessment as contaminants of concern. Although dioxin numbers exceeded risk based benchmarks, all values were below EPA's recommended cleanup goal of 1 ppb."

I look forward to working with you and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management toward the cleanup of the environs of the Naval Station Newport. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 918-1385 should you wish to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,



Kymberlee Keckler, Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

cc: Paul Kulpa, RIDEM, Providence, RI
Melissa Griffin, NETC, Newport, RI
David Peterson, USEPA, Boston, MA
Mary Philcox, URI, Portsmouth, RI
David Egan, TAG recipient, East Greenwich, RI